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# State of Utah

## DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

MICHAEL R. STYLER  
Executive Director

### Division of Oil, Gas and Mining

JOHN R. BAZA  
Division Director

October 23, 2013

D.T. Johnson, LLC  
Richard Smoot, LLC  
3468 West Edenvue Drive  
South Jordan, Utah 84095

Subject: Public Comments about Environmental Concerns, T. J. Murphy, Bryson 4 Abandoned Mine Site, DOE# M/019/0014, Grand County, Utah

Dear Messrs. Johnson and Smoot:

The Division of Oil, Gas and Mining (Division) recently received a citizen's complaint about some environmental concerns at the referenced mine site in Section 5 of Township 16 South, Range 24 East, SLM. Our records show that this property was mined for tar sands in the mid-1980's under a "Determination of Exemption" issued by the Division prior to the promulgation of regulations for small mines. A Determination of Exemption means that the mine was exempt from regulation under the Utah Mined Land Reclamation Act.

A Division representative inspected the site on September 18, 2013, and found evidence that the site has not been reclaimed. The inspector found a significant high wall, a pile of oxidized ore, mine dumps, several large rusty pieces of mining equipment, and 55-gallon drums. A copy of the inspection report, including photographs, is included with this letter.

The citizen's complaint concerned wildlife getting caught and dying in a tar seep on the mine site. The Division's inspector found a pool of bitumen and water at the base of the mine dumps. This pool was about four by two feet.

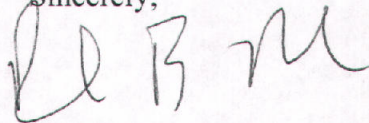
The Grand County Recorder indicates you are the land owners for this property. Could you please confirm whether this is correct? Assuming it is correct, the Division would also like to know whether you would be willing to remediate this problem or allow a third party to enter the property to, at a minimum, cover the pool, or to do other work up to full reclamation of the site.



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Please contact me at the address listed below, by e mail at paulbaker@utah.gov, or by telephone at 801-538-5261 to discuss these issues. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Baker'.

Paul Baker  
Minerals Program Manager

PB: cb  
Cc: S. Alder  
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